(c) Over 18 million cubic metres of gas has been allocated to various gas-based units in Maharashtra. A further demand of 8.22 MMSCMD from the Sate is registered with the Gas Authority of India Limited.

**New LPG Connections**

3165. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to icrease the targets for new domestic LPG connections to 10 lakhs;

(b) what is the modus operandi for alloting the additional 5 lakh connections;

(c) what is the anticipated allotment to Andhra Pradesh; and

(d) what steps Government are taking to streamline the home delivery system?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) The target for new LPG connections has been increased to 10 lakhs in 1991-92.

(b) and (c) Allotment of new LPG connections is not being done state-wise or on town-wise basis, but is based on availability of LPG in the country and other economic consideration of viability of the distributors.

(d) The present home delivery system has been quite satisfactory.

**Impact of Idle wells on oil production**

3166. SHRI R. K. KARANJIA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons behind the growing number of idle wells and its impact on the falling oil production, whether it is a fact that the major portion of 1558 idle wells falls in areas other than Bombay High;

(b) the present rate of depletion of the Bombay oil reservoir and how it compares with the profile of the Bombay High oilfield at the time when the projections for the next plan period were being formulated alongwith the total production from Bambay High now compared to the production three years back;

(c) whether it is a fact that the difference between GAIL (Gas Authority of India) and ONGC are responsible for the non-utilisation of Bombay High gas;

(d) what is the total quantum of natural gas wasted every year; and

(e) what is the approximate cost of the wastage?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) According to ONGC & OIL as at present there are about 450 idle wells majority of which fall outside Bombay High.

(b) The current rate of depletion of the Bombay High is about 15 million tonnes per annum which is about one per cent of the Geological reserves of the field. It has ranged from about 18.00 million tonnes to 20.00 million tonnes during the last three years.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) About 11 MMSCMD of gas valued at approximately Rs. 550 crores per annum is currently being flared.

**Petrol/Diesel Outlets in Uttar Pradesh**

3167. DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state: